

and Wildlife, Victoria Marie Baecher Wassmer, of Illinois, to be Chief Financial Officer, and Thomas A. Burke, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Administrator, both of Environmental Protection Agency, and Roy K. J. Williams, of Ohio, to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development, 2:30 p.m., SD-406.

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* Subcommittee on African Affairs, to hold hearings to examine responding to the humanitarian, security and governance crisis in the Central Africa Republic, 2 p.m., SD-419.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Helen Meagher La Lime, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Angola, Larry Edward Andre, Jr., of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, Eric T. Schultz, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Zambia, and Cynthia H. Akuetteh, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Gabonese Republic, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Republic of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe, all of the Department of State, 4 p.m., SD-419.

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* to hold hearings to examine the Navy Yard tragedy, focusing on the physical security for Federal facilities, 10:30 a.m., SD-342.

*Committee on the Judiciary:* to hold hearings to examine protecting small businesses and promoting innovation by limiting patent troll abuse, 10 a.m., SD-226.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the Federal Arbitration Act and access to justice, focusing on if recent Supreme Court decisions undermine the rights of consumers, workers, and small businesses, 2:30 p.m., SD-226.

*Select Committee on Intelligence:* to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Daniel Bennett Smith, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of State for Intelligence and Research, and Caroline Diane Krass, of the District of Columbia, to be General Counsel of the Central Intelligence Agency, 2:30 p.m., SD-106.

## House

No hearings are scheduled.

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## CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of December 17 through December 20,  
2013

## Senate Chamber

On Tuesday, at 10 a.m., Senate will vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the Reid motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to H.J. Res. 59, Bipartisan Budget Act.

During the balance of the week, Senate may consider any cleared legislative and executive business.

## Senate Committees

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

*Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:* December 17, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Arun Madhavan Kumar, of California, to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Director General of the United States and Foreign Commercial Service, 10 a.m., SD-538.

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* December 18, to hold hearings to examine what information data brokers have on consumers, and how they use it, 2:30 p.m., SR-253.

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* December 17, business meeting to consider the nominations of Steven Croley, of Michigan, to be General Counsel, and Christopher Smith, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy, both of the Department of Energy, and Esther Puakela Kia'aina, of Hawaii, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Interior; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine the nominations of Janice Marion Schneider, of New York, to be Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management, and Neil Gregory Kornze, of Nevada, to be Director of the Bureau of Land Management, both of the Department of the Interior, and Marc A. Kastner, of Massachusetts, to be Director of the Office of Science, and Ellen Dudley Williams, of Maryland, to be Director of the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy, both of the Department of Energy, 10 a.m., SD-366.

December 19, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 37, to sustain the economic development and recreational use of National Forest System land and other public land in the State of Montana, to add certain land to the National Wilderness Preservation System, to release certain wilderness study areas, to designate new areas for recreation, S. 404, to preserve the Green Mountain Lookout in the Glacier Peak Wilderness of the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, S. 974, to provide for certain land conveyances in the State of Nevada, S. 1237, to improve the administration of programs in the insular areas, S. 1300, to amend the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 to provide for the conduct of stewardship end result contracting projects, S. 1301, to provide for the restoration of forest landscapes, protection of old growth forests, and management of national forests in the eastside forests of the State of Oregon, S. 1341, to modify the Forest Service Recreation Residence Program as the program applies to units of the National Forest System derived from the public domain by implementing a simple, equitable, and predictable procedure for determining cabin user fees, S. 1491, to amend the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 to improve United States-Israel energy cooperation, H.R. 1158, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to continue stocking fish in certain lakes in the North Cascades National Park, Ross Lake National Recreation Area, and Lake Chelan National Recreation Area, and H.R. 2337, to provide for the conveyance of the Forest Service Lake Hill Administrative Site in Summit County, Colorado, 9:30 a.m., SD-366.

*Committee on Environment and Public Works:* December 17, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Rhea Sun Suh, of Colorado, to be Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish and Wildlife, Victoria Marie Baecher Wassmer, of Illinois, to be Chief Financial Officer, and Thomas A. Burke, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Administrator, both of Environmental Protection Agency, and Roy K. J. Williams, of Ohio, to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development, 2:30 p.m., SD-406.

*Committee on Finance:* December 18, Subcommittee on Social Security, Pensions, and Family Policy, to hold hearings to examine the role of Social Security, defined benefits, and private retirement accounts in relation to retirement crisis, 10 a.m., SD-215.

*Committee on Foreign Relations:* December 17, Subcommittee on African Affairs, to hold hearings to examine responding to the humanitarian, security and governance crisis in the Central Africa Republic, 2 p.m., SD-419.

December 17, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Helen Meagher La Lime, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Angola, Larry Edward Andre, Jr., of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, Eric T. Schultz, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Zambia, and Cynthia H. Akuetteh, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Gabonese Republic, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Republic of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe, all of the Department of State, 4 p.m., SD-419.

December 18, Subcommittee on East Asian and Pacific Affairs, to hold hearings to examine rebalance to Asia IV, focusing on economic engagement in the Asia-Pacific region, 10 a.m., SD-419.

December 18, Full Committee, business meeting to consider an original bill entitled, "Egypt Assistance Reform Act of 2013", S. 653, to provide for the establishment of the Special Envoy to Promote Religious Freedom of Religious Minorities in the Near East and South Central Asia, S. Res. 314, commemorating and supporting the goals of World AIDS Day, S. Res. 288, supporting enhanced maritime security in the Gulf of Guinea and encouraging increased cooperation between the United States and West and Central African countries to fight armed robbery at sea, piracy, and other maritime threats, S. Res. 312, calling on the government of Iran to fulfill their promises of assistance in this case of Robert Levinson, one of the longest held United States civilians in our Nation's history, S. Res. 75, condemning the Government of Iran for its state-sponsored persecution of its Baha'i minority and its continued violation of the International Covenants on Human Rights, S. Res. 318, expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the critical need for political reform in Bangladesh, S. Res. 317, expressing the sense of the Senate on the continuing relationship between the United States and Georgia, an original resolution entitled, "in support of the Ukrainian people in light of President Yanukovich's decision not to sign an Association Agreement with the European

Union", and the nominations of Dana J. Hyde, of Maryland, to be Chief Executive Officer, Millennium Challenge Corporation, Mark E. Lopes, of Arizona, to be United States Executive Director of the Inter-American Development Bank for a term of three years, and Keith Michael Harper, of Maryland, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as United States Representative to the UN Human Rights Council, Department of State, 2:15 p.m., S-116, Capitol.

*Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:* December 18, business meeting to consider S. 1417, to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize programs under part A of title XI of such Act, S. 1719, and H.R. 3527, bills to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the poison center national toll-free number, national media campaign, and grant program, and the nominations of David Weil, of Massachusetts, to be Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division, Department of Labor, France A. Cordova, of New Mexico, to be Director of the National Science Foundation, Steven Joel Anthony, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Railroad Retirement Board, James H. Shelton III, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Secretary of Education, and any pending nominations, 10 a.m., SD-430.

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* December 17, to hold hearings to examine the Navy Yard tragedy, focusing on the physical security for Federal facilities, 10:30 a.m., SD-342.

December 18, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 1486, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service, and an original bill entitled, "Cybersecurity Recruitment and Retention Act", 10 a.m., SD-342.

December 19, Subcommittee on Financial and Contracting Oversight, to hold hearings to examine the Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security, 10:30 a.m., SD-342.

*Committee on Indian Affairs:* December 18, business meeting to consider S. 1352, to reauthorize the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996, and the nomination of Vincent G. Logan, of New York, to be Special Trustee, Office of Special Trustee for American Indians, Department of the Interior, 2:30 p.m., SD-628.

*Committee on the Judiciary:* December 17, to hold hearings to examine protecting small businesses and promoting innovation by limiting patent troll abuse, 10 a.m., SD-226.

December 17, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the Federal Arbitration Act and access to justice, focusing on if recent Supreme Court decisions undermine the rights of consumers, workers, and small businesses, 2:30 p.m., SD-226.

December 18, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Daniel D. Crabtree, to be United States District Judge for the District of Kansas, Cynthia Ann Bashant, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California, Jon David Levy, of Maine, to be United States District Judge for the District of Maine, and Theodore David Chuang, and George

Jarrold Hazel, both to be a United States District Judge for the District of Maryland, 2:30 p.m., SD–226.

December 19, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 619, to amend title 18, United States Code, to prevent unjust and irrational criminal punishments, S. 1410, to focus limited Federal resources on the most serious offenders, S. 1675, to reduce recidivism and increase public safety, S. 975, to provide for the inclusion of court-appointed guardianship improvement and oversight activities under the Elder Justice Act of 2009, and the nominations of John B. Owens, of California, and Michelle T. Friedland, of California, both to be a United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, Nancy L. Moritz, of Kansas, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit, David Jeremiah Barron, of Massachusetts, to be United States Circuit Judge for the First Circuit, Matthew Frederick Leitman, Judith Ellen Levy, Laurie J. Michelson, and Linda Vivienne Parker, all to be a United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan, Christopher Reid Cooper, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia, Gerald Austin McHugh, Jr., and Edward G. Smith, both to be a United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, M. Douglas Harpool, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Missouri, Sheryl H. Lipman, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Tennessee, Stanley Allen Bastian, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern Dis-

trict of Washington, Manish S. Shah, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois, and Peter Joseph Kadzik, of New York, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Robert L. Hobbs, to be United States Marshal for the Eastern District of Texas, and Gary Blankinship, to be United States Marshal for the Southern District of Texas, all of the Department of Justice, 10 a.m., SD–226.

*Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship:* December 18, to hold hearings to examine Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer, focusing on measuring the effectiveness of the reauthorization act and maximizing research dollars to America's small businesses, 2 p.m., SR–428A.

*Select Committee on Intelligence:* December 17, to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Daniel Bennett Smith, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of State for Intelligence and Research, and Caroline Diane Krass, of the District of Columbia, to be General Counsel of the Central Intelligence Agency, 2:30 p.m., SD–106.

December 19, Full Committee, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH–219.

*Special Committee on Aging:* December 18, to hold hearings to examine the future of long-term care policy, focusing on continuing the conversation, 2:15 p.m., SD–562.